Appreciation in the value of Yen

@943. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been any impact on Indian industry due to the appreciation of the value of Japanese Yen, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it has hit the Indo-Japan projects particularly the automobile industry into which Japanese technology has been introduced;

(c) whether the exports to Japan like Iron Ore have also been affected; and

(d) if so, what measures have been taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Appreciation in the value of the Japanese Yen has adversely affected several segments of the Indian Industry. Automobile units having collaboration with Japanese companies have been particularly affected because it has led to a substantial increase in the cost of their imports.

(c) The appreciation of Japanese Yen has not directly affected iron ore exports from India to Japan as the export price has been fixed in US dollars. However, due to the fall in its crude steel production, Japan has cut down iron ore imports.

(d) To cope with the problem, the automobile manufacturers have been advised and encouraged to accelerate indigenisation of components so as to reduce dependence on imports. Some fiscal concessions have also been extended to the automobile industry.

@Previously Unstarred Question 638, transferred from the 23rd April, 1987.

Development of High technoloby industries

944. SHRI SANTOSH BAGDORIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the different types of high technology industries Government propose to develop on top priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): The high technology industries to be developed on top priority basis are included in the list of Appendix-I indusries a copy of which is attached.

[*See* Appendix CXLII, Annexure No. 58].

Curbing unfair trade practices by MRTPC

945. SHRI J. P. GOYAL:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (MRTPC) has been successful in curbing unfair trade practices during the last three years;

(b) the names and other particulars of firms/companies involved in unfair trade practices; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against each one of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The provisions contained in the MRTP Act, 1969 regarding unfair trade practices were brought into force with effect from 1-8-1984. Since that date and upto 31-3-1987, the MRTP Commission has instituted 536 enquiries in such cases. The effort involved

in compilation of details of all these enquiries may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be served. The Commission is empowered to take appropriate action in scuch cases as per the relevant provisions of the MRTP Act.

Prices of tyres

946. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of all varieties of tyres have risen considerably during the last three years; if so, what are the details thereof during the years 1984, 1985, 1986 and so far in 1987; and

(b) what steps Government are taking or propose to take in order to control tyre prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Tyre companies increased the net dealers prices of bus/truck tyres in March, 1984 Thereafter, the tyre manufacturers raised the net dealers prices of all varieties of tyres in January-March, 1985 and in May 1986. There has been no increase in the net dealers prices since May, 1986. The market prices of truck tyres, however, have shown an upward trend in recent months.

(b) Tyres are not subject to any price and distribution control. However, Government have been interacting with the industry in this regard. Government may consider import of tyres if the need arises.

Foreign collaboration granted in Electrical Industry

947. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign collaborations granted during 1985-86 and 1986-87 in Electrical Industry;

(b) the names of Indian Companies with their foreign collaborators and items of manufacture;

(c) whether the indigenous technology is not upto the mark in the electrical industry; and

(d) if so, Research and Development efforts made by the Government for technological development and transfer of tchnology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) In the year 1985, 205 foreign collaboration approvals were granted for electrical equipment industry. In 1986 the number of approvals was 175.

(b) Information regarding all approved foreign collaborations indicating the names of Indian and Foreign firms, items of manufacture and nature of collaborations are published by the Indian Investment Centre (under the administrative control of Ministry of Finance). Copies of this publication are also regularly sent to the Parliament Library.

(c) and (d) Indigenous technology in the field of electrical industry is reasonably well developed. However, technical collaborations are allowed to enable the indigenous manufacturers to update the existing technology for meeting changing market requirements. In addition to the Research & Development efforts through the Laboratories under the administrative control of the Government, encouragement is also provided through various schemes for Research & Development by the Industry as well as for absorption of imported technology.

Violation of regulations by reliance industries

948. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) since the launching of any kind investigation for alleged violation of regulations by Reliance Industries Limited, whether any additional licences, sanctions, permissions have been granted to this concern for expansion or for new ventures; and